

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN APPLICATION BY B&H GAS COMPANY)	
FOR A DEVIATION FROM 807 KAR 5:022,)	CASE NO. 94-085
SECTION 13(17)(g)(4), REGARDING)	
ODORIZATION REPORT)	

O R D E R

On February 24, 1994, B&H Gas Company ("B&H") requested a deviation from 807 KAR 5:022, Section 13(17)(g)(4).¹ B&H proposes to sample for proper odorant level monthly rather than weekly. Virtually all of B&H's gas supply contains a natural odorant.

On April 28, 1994, David B. Kinman, a gas safety investigator with the Commission's Gas Pipeline Safety Branch, conducted a field visit and tested the natural gas in B&H's distribution system. Mr. Kinman confirmed that the concentration of the odorant is within the acceptable level established in 807 KAR 5:022, Section 13(17)(a).²

In response to an information request from the Commission, B&H provided 12 months' testing records which show adequate odorant level in the gas of B&H's system. B&H estimates a cost savings of

¹ 807 KAR 5:022, Section 13(17)(g)(4), states "Separately odorized systems with more than ten (10) customers shall be sampled for proper odorant level at least once each week."

² Combustible gas in a distribution line shall contain a natural odorant or be odorized so that at a concentration of air of one-fifth (1/5) of the lower explosive limit (approximately one (1) percent by volume) gas is readily detectable by a person with a normal sense of smell.

\$100 per month if odorant level testing is performed monthly instead of weekly.

After considering the evidence of record and being sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that:

1. The natural gas in the B&H system contains natural odorant within the acceptable level established in 807 KAR 5:022, Section 13(17)(a).

2. Extending periodic sampling for odorant concentration from weekly to monthly should not affect the odorant concentration in the natural gas of the B&H system.

3. While the natural odorant concentration in the gas may fluctuate over a long period of time, it should not fluctuate significantly on a monthly basis.

4. B&H's request for a deviation from 807 KAR 5:022, Section 13(17)(g)(4), should be granted.

5. B&H should sample the odorant level in its gas supply at approximately the furthest point from which B&H's gas supply enters its system and retain the odorant sampling record of each monthly test.

6. If the gas odorant level drops at any location in B&H's system below the concentration specified in 807 KAR 5:022, Section 13(17)(a), B&H should immediately report such occurrence to the Commission and install odorization facilities to inject odorant into its natural gas and to comply with Commission regulations by implementing weekly sampling.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. B&H be and it hereby is granted a deviation from 807 KAR 5:022, Section 13(17)(g)(4). B&H shall sample its gas for proper odorant level at least once each month.

2. B&H shall comply with the instructions set forth in Findings 5 and 6.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 21st day of June, 1994.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director